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NEWS RELEASE

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CARMICHAEL MAN SENTENCED TO 60 MONTHS FOR RECEIPT AND POSSESSION OF CHILD PORNOGRAPHY

SACRAMENTO --United States Attorney McGregor W. Scott announced today that KEVIN GIFFORD, 29, of Carmichael, was sentenced today by United States District Judge Lawrence K. Karlton to five years in prison. The defendant had been found guilty of receipt of child pornography and possession of child pornography by a jury on February 22, 2008.

This case is the product of an extensive joint investigation by the Sacramento Sheriff's Internet Crimes Against Children Task Force and the Federal Bureau of Investigation.

According to Assistant United States Attorneys Carolyn Delaney and Kyle Reardon, who prosecuted the case, Judge Karlton, in sentencing the defendant, said that the defendant had committed serious misconduct, recognizing that the children depicted in the photographs and videos possessed by the defendant were victimized by the defendant's actions. Nonetheless, the Court, in deciding to depart downward from the United States Probation Officer's recommended sentence of 210 months (16 years, eight months), noted the defendant's age and his own history as a victim of child sexual abuse.

In this case, the defendant received and then retained on his home computer at least 200 video files and 160 photographs of child pornography from known victims. Some of these files depicted the "sexually sadistic behavior" of grown men with five and six year-old girls. The evidence at trial made it clear that the defendant had installed at least two different file-sharing networks onto his computer in

order to solicit and receive videos and pictures of child pornography.

While receiving and possessing child pornography, the defendant developed an online relationship with an Ohio girl who was only 16 years-old at the time their relationship began. This relationship culminated with the girl moving to California to live with the defendant when she turned 18. Within minutes of the defendant's first online contact with the Ohio girl, the defendant proceeded to engage her in explicit conversation. During their first conversation and over the course of several others later that day and within the first week of meeting the Ohio girl online, the defendant spoke with her about viewing other girls on web cameras who were engaging in inappropriate behavior; displayed on his web camera his genitalia; stated that he wanted to have anal sex with the Ohio girl; and told the Ohio girl of his desire to enlist younger girls into his sexual fantasies.

Furthermore, at the time the defendant's computer was seized, he possessed contact information on his computer for a number of persons whose online personas implied that they were underage.

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